

### Reasons For Allowance

Claims 1 - 3 are allowable.

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: in combination with other limitations of the claims the prior arts made of record fail to suggest a signal processing device and method , comprising a first digital signal processing block and a second digital signal processing block wherein the signal processing signal device comprises detection means for detecting the level value of the digital signal output from the second gain adjustment means; first gain set means for setting a gain value to the first gain adjustment means such that the level value detected by the detection means is set to a maximum value within a range less the a prescribed value in a state that a signal whose level is treated as a maximum value in the first digital signal processing block is input to the first gain adjustment means; and second gain set means for setting a gain value to the second gain adjustment means such that the level value detected by the detection means is set to a maximum value within a range equal to or less than the prescribed value in a state that a signal whose level is treated as a predetermined maximum value is input to the first digital signal processing block after the gain value is set by the first gain set means.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean B. Jeanglaude whose telephone number is 571-272-1804. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30 A. M. - 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rexford Barnie can be reached on 571-272-7492. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jean B Jeanglaude/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2819